This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations and is not a part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning documents will not correct images, please do not report the images to the Image Problem Mailbox.

I here certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service with sufficient postage as First class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, TRAD THE date shown below.

PATENT Docket No. GC527C2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
D. A. Estell <i>et al.</i>)) Group Art Unit: 1644
Serial No.: 09/677,822)) Examiner: Saunders, D.
Filed: October 2, 2000))
For: Proteins Producing an Altered Immunogenic Response and Methods of Making and Using the Same))))

DECLARATION OF FIONA HARDING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.131

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 13, 2003

Sir:

- 1. I, Fiona Harding, am a co-inventor of the subject matter embodied in the above-identified patent application.
- 2. I have read and understand the above-identified patent application, which was filed on October 2, 2000; the priority patent applications Application Serial Number 09/500,135, filed February 8, 2000, and Application Serial Number 09/060,872, filed April 15, 1998; all of the Claims as amended and filed in the "Amendment and Response to Office Action" filed herewith; the Office Action from the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, mailed January 14, 2003; and the references by Landry (WO 99/06061; published February 11, 1999), and Mouritsen (WO 95/05849; published March 2, 1995).
- 3. The work that is the subject of the pending Claims and that is described in paragraphs 4 to 11 below, was performed in this country by me or under my supervision.
- 4. Prior to February, 1999, I successfully carried out assay experiments as described in the present patent application, in which the amino acid sequence of a T-cell

epitope peptide was modified to increase the magnitude of the induced proliferative response. A peripheral blood (PBMC) sample from a Genencor employee who was verified by Genencor's Environmental Health and Safety department as sensitized to *B. lentus* subtilisin was drawn by the Stanford University Blood Center. Monocytes from the PBMC sample were cultured with GM-CSF and IL-4 for 5 days in order to cause the differentiation of dendritic cells (DC). IL-1 and TNF-alpha were subsequently added, and the DC cultures were incubated for another 2 days. The final DC cultures were harvested on day 7. On day 7, CD4+ T cells from the donor PBMC sample were isolated from frozen aliquots.

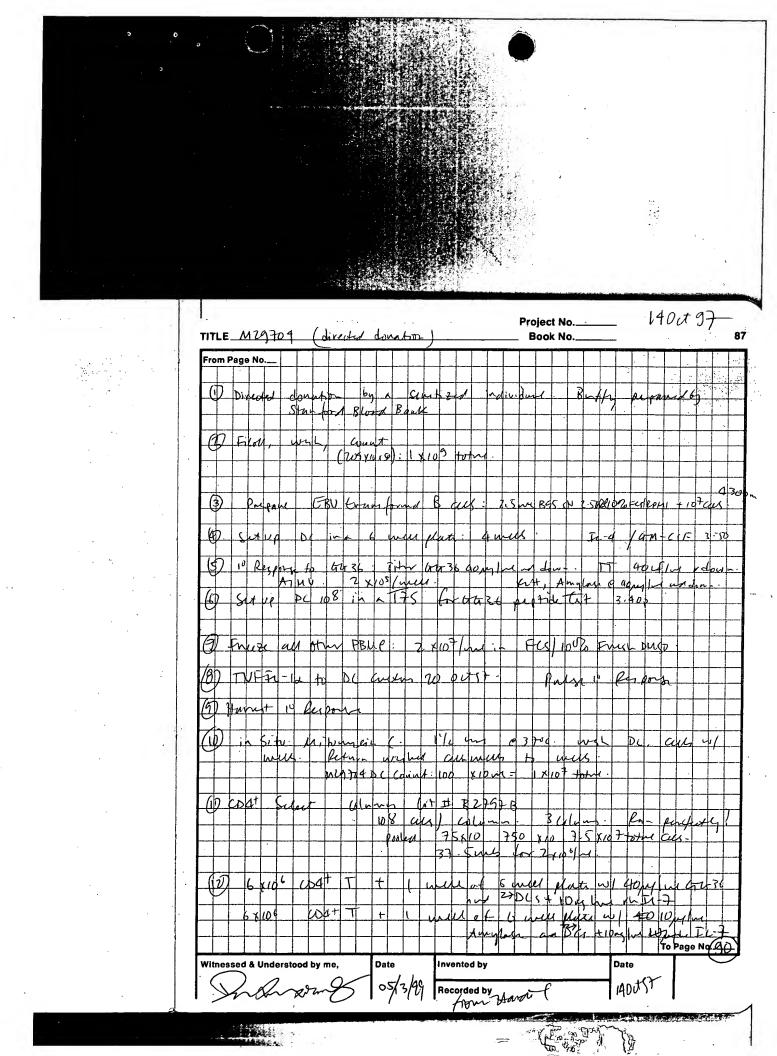
- 5. Peptides encompassing the amino acids 160-174 from *B. lentus* subtilisin, and a series of alanine scan peptide variants, were purchased from Mimotopes.
- 6. CD4+ T cells and DC from the sensitized donor were co-cultured with either the unmodified parent peptide, or the alanine substituted variant peptides. Cultures were incubated for 5 days. On day 5, 0.5 uCi of tritiated thymidine was added to each well of the cell culture. On day 6, the cell cultures were harvested to glass fiber mats, and incorporated tritiated thymidine was measured.
- 7. This donor had been previously shown to respond to the amino acid 160-174 region of *B. lentus* subtilisin by mounting a CD4+ T cell response. In this experiment, the donor again responded to the unmodified amino acid 160-174 peptide. The stimulation index of the proliferative response (experimental cpm divided by control well cpm) was about 7.
- 8. Responses to the alanine scan peptides were tabulated. Many of the alanine substituted peptides have no effect on the proliferative response (*i.e.*, the magnitude of the stimulation index to the variant peptide was approximately the same as the response to the unmodified parent peptide). Alanine changed peptides at some of the positions (R, Y, N) had a deleterious effect on the induction of a proliferation response. However, alanine substitutions at both positions #12 and #5 in the peptide resulted in proliferative responses that were more robust than the response to the unmodified parent peptide.
- 9. Please see Figure 11 in the application as filed, which shows the increased proliferative response to variant peptide carrying changes #5 and #12 as compared to the parent, unmodified peptide sequence.
- 10. In conclusion, this experiment shows that the modification of a T-cell epitope peptide sequence can result in an increased proliferative response to the polypeptide.
- 11. These experiments are described on pages 89-99 of my laboratory notebook number 1471, attached hereto at Tab 1.

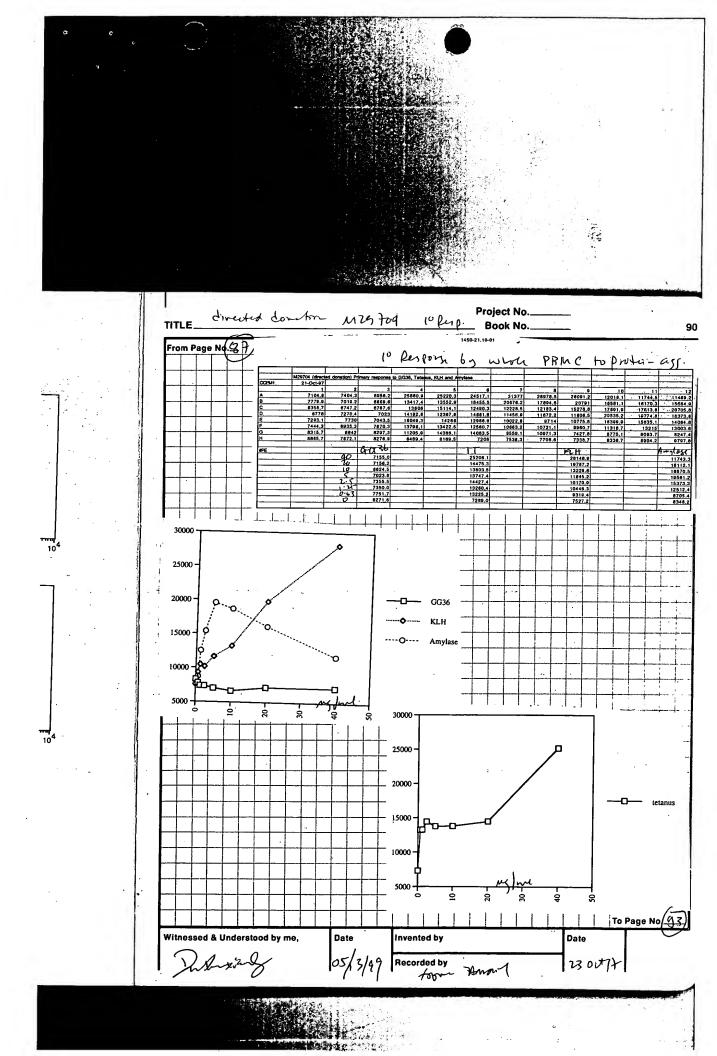
The undersigned declares further that all statements made herein of her own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 19 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing therefrom

Dated: 12 Jun 2003

Signed:

FIONA HARDING





Project No. Book No. TITLE MIG 714 From Page No.50 Yikes! M29704 directed donation Response to GG36 PepSet 28 Oct 1997 1450RHiZ8-10-1 Stimulation Index Well Position 18.3 2085,5 3458.3 575,9 6.1 218.5 363.5 990.6 10.2 13171.6 5734. To Page No Date Witnessed & Understood by me, Date Invented by Wouth Recorded by

Project No.. M25704 Book No. TITLE 99 From Page (1643 Mitoc 16 3.5 NO6 tone (17) 4040 3.0 ×106 total 0436 . 2.14×106+8+1 5 × 10 5/ men DC 106/mer 6424 7 x103/men ALUV LINOVSD: Toda-2.8 x 105 (2) Bau 4436 EBV/A (22) 13 NOV 57 COVI To Page No. Date Date Witnessed & Understood by me, Invented by 05/3/99 Recorded by 4N177+